

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

In paragraph [0028], please make the following change as reflected in the following marked-up version of the paragraph:

[0028] As previously discussed, a PIN photodiode or an avalanche photodiode is typically used as the detector 202 and external attenuators are typically needed to prevent the receiver from optically saturating. Figure 3A and Figure 3B illustrate embodiments of a detector that increases the dynamic range of the receiver 102 [[an]] and permits the receiver to process optical signals having more optical power without generating an error. Advantageously, the present invention obviates the need for external attenuators that provide fixed attenuation or variable attenuation.